



The Sustainable Markets Initiative's Natural Capital Investment Alliance announces 12 new members and plans to mobilise more than USD 10 billion of private capital

Today at the World Leaders' Summit, COP26 in Glasgow during a session introduced by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, Dame Elizabeth Corley, Chair-Designate of Schroders plc, made the announcement, when speaking of the key role of private sector investment in contributing towards positive outcomes for nature.

2nd November: The Sustainable Markets Initiative (the “SMI”) today announced: 12Tree; ASN Impact Investors; the International business of Federated Hermes; Fidelity International; Fondaction; Foresight; Impax Asset Management; Kilter Rural; Posaidon Capital; Sail Ventures; Schroders; and SLM Partners as new members of the SMI's Natural Capital Investment Alliance (the “NCIA”).

They join Climate Asset Management, a partnership of HSBC Asset Management and Pollination; Lombard Odier; and Mirova, an affiliate of Natixis Investment Managers, who were founding members of the NCIA. The NCIA was created by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales under his Sustainable Markets Initiative in January this year and announced at the One Planet Summit on Biodiversity. This takes the total membership of the NCIA to 15 asset managers.

The announcement was made on day 2 of the World Leaders' Summit, COP26 in Glasgow as part of an event focussed on how action on forests and land-use can contribute to keeping the 1.5 temperature goal in sight, support sustainable livelihoods, and to meeting shared promises on adaptation and finance. Demonstrating the important interconnectivity of measures, the NCIA was also announced as a network partner of the Forest Investor Club, an initiative launched by the US State Department.

The NCIA members have plans to launch, or have launched, investment products aligned to Natural Capital themes that target mobilising more than USD 10 billion in aggregate by the end of 2022. The themes range from direct investment in sustainable forestry and land management through to investments in businesses that are supporting the shift away from a linear and wasteful economy to one that emphasises circularity as a key component of alleviating pressure on forestry, biodiversity, and ecosystems. NCIA members have set out their future plans and already raised or deployed USD 1.1 billion in aggregate¹.

The NCIA aims to accelerate the development of Natural Capital as a mainstream investment theme and to engage the global USD 120 trillion investment management industry to mobilise this private capital efficiently and effectively for Natural Capital opportunities.

His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales said:

“The interdependence between human health and planetary health has never been clearer. But time is fast running out. As we urgently seek to rescue the situation, we must look to invest in Natural Capital as the engine of our economy. I created the Natural Capital Investment Alliance as part of my Sustainable Markets Initiative to help us arrive at a common language on Natural Capital investment and make it mainstream. It is vital that we put money to work in the right way and improve the flow of capital”

¹ <https://www.sustainable-markets.org/ncia/>

As the world continues to tackle the twin climate and biodiversity crises, there is growing interest in investing in, harnessing, and preserving Natural Capital as a solution to reducing emissions, restoring biodiversity, and boosting sustainable economic growth and job creation. However, there are currently only a limited number of initiatives to promote Nature as an investment opportunity. To seize the scale of this opportunity, a finance-led approach is needed to integrate Natural Capital as an investment theme across different asset classes, as well as improved descriptions of Natural Capital investment opportunities. That is the purpose of the NCIA.

The NCIA aims to continue to attract members from the finance community to create scale, and synergies between mainstream asset owners and asset managers, underpinned by the following goals:

- To serve as a central hub for global corporations and financial institutions seeking to scale-up their investments into Natural Capital, in support of biodiversity restoration, including through high integrity carbon offsets.
- To share investment knowledge and expertise on investing in Natural Capital, underpinned by strong principles.
- To showcase and demonstrate scalability of appropriate investment vehicles and the multiple opportunities across asset classes.

Dame Elizabeth Corley, Chair-Designate of Schroders plc said:

“Schroders is very pleased to announce today that it is joining the Alliance as part of His Royal Highness’ Sustainable Markets Initiative. This Alliance demonstrates the commitment of the investment industry to play a major role in forging a pathway towards a mainstream market for natural capital. As an industry, we now need to find entirely new ways of mobilising capital, innovating how we deploy money towards outcomes that benefit the climate, biodiversity and communities around the world. As NCIA members, we will be working to help drive this shift in the financial system, which is critical to scale finance for the activities that can ultimately build towards a just, nature-positive economy.”

Hubert Keller, Senior Managing Partner of Lombard Odier Group said:

“Lombard Odier is proud to be a founding member of this important Alliance, inspired by His Royal Highness’ vision. We are delighted that 12 more asset managers are joining the founders to contribute to mobilising capital at a scale commensurate with the opportunity and challenges. Today, some of the most convincing opportunities for growth and returns come from a transition to a more sustainable economic model that both harnesses and preserves Nature. At Lombard Odier, we continue to develop solutions that allow mainstream investors to position capital across asset classes to benefit from this largely untapped investment opportunity.”

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About the Sustainable Markets Initiative

His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, launched the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) at Davos in January 2020. The SMI is a network of global CEOs working together to build prosperous and sustainable economies that generate long-term value through the balanced integration of natural, social, human and financial capital.

The SMI facilitates the development of responsible transition pathways at industry and business levels to decarbonize and achieve net-zero, create a Nature-positive future and support a just transition towards a sustainable future.

For more information:

<https://www.sustainable-markets.org/>

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Further Background on NCIA Members

About 12Tree

12Tree has been founded on two principles: To help create holistically designed nature based investments as a fully investible asset class for scaled institutional capital and to operate ourselves in all geographies in order to de-risk projects and deliver reputation-proof best-in class social, climate and biodiversity returns coupled with solid returns. 12Tree is part of RRG group, which raised the Sustainable Water Impact Fund with The Nature Conservancy in 2020 with almost \$1bn in capital. We compare Natural Capital to what happened in renewable power when the first PPAs were signed. Long-term offtake agreements from big food and other companies with sustainability premiums will be what PPAs are to the renewable space. 12Tree delivers active and certified carbon drawdown for high quality climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation and enhancement and reduction of poverty in rural areas. Our projects are always human-centric and built around the needs of the local population in each of our geographies.

To achieve the transformation we have built an interdisciplinary asset management and operation team which translates the needs of institutional investors into a language that can be understood and implemented by local operational teams. This team is composed of professionals and experts including investment specialists, lawyers, financial controllers, accountants and technical project supervisors with a forestry/agronomic background. What we believe makes a big difference is that we operate ourselves and have boots on the ground in all geographies. All farm managers are part of the international Technical Services Team which has world leading experts in all key agronomical areas.

We are responsible for the origination and structuring of deals, always following rigorous and independent due diligence (legal, tax, financial, technical, social) and approval processes. After an investment has been included in our portfolio, we strive to provide investors with clear and transparent operational and financial information, which is verified on a yearly basis by financial auditors and forestry/agriculture appraisers. To demonstrate our commitment to regenerative practices, we voluntarily certify our projects under a standard that is selected on case by case basis (FSC, UTZ, organic, Gold standard etc.). Finally on the social front, we mandate independent social impact auditors that help us establish and track important impact objectives. This really helps create and demonstrate the importance of true social impact for the longterm success of climate change and biodiversity strategies. Everything is intertwined. 12Tree is signatory to the PRI.

For more information:

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About ASN Impact Investors

ASN Impact Investors offers 11 investment funds to accelerate the process of bringing a sustainable society closer. That is why we, since 28 years, only invest in companies, institutions and projects that, in addition to a financial result, also strive to make a positive contribution in the field of climate, biodiversity and human rights. Because only from a richer world, you can continue to reap the benefits.

We focus on a positive impact in addition to a healthy financial return. This means setting concrete goals, measuring the impact of our investments and reporting transparently to our investors. We are ambitious pioneers and have set ourselves the goal of achieving a net positive effect on both climate and biodiversity with the total of our investments by 2030. Furthermore, it is our objective that by 2030 all garment companies in our universe will have implemented all the necessary processes to enable a living wage to be paid to workers in their supply chain.

We are convinced that companies that take a responsible approach to people, planet and profit will be more future-proof and successful. That is why we opt for a positive selection. Based on our sustainability criteria, we look for companies with futureproof operations and good financial prospects to join our sustainable investment universe.

For more information:

<https://redactie-abb-n2.verz.local/web/impact-investors-english.html>

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About Climate Asset Management

Climate Asset Management was formed in 2020 as a joint venture of HSBC Asset Management and Pollination, with the ambition to grow the world's largest asset management company dedicated to natural capital.

Climate Asset Management is a new kind of asset management company: we see nature as the most fundamental form of capital.

Our investment strategies seek to work across landscapes to build resilience whilst generating returns - both financial and in the form of carbon credits. They are grounded in nature-based investments, including sustainable forestry, regenerative agriculture, and nature-based carbon projects, alongside exploration of new forms of natural capital.

Through our Natural Capital Strategy, we aim to deliver attractive, long-term returns and create impact at scale by protecting and restoring vital biodiversity. Through our Nature Based Carbon Strategy, we aim to unlock the supply of high impact carbon credits for corporates and investors seeking to achieve net zero. Climate Asset Management aims to raise \$1.6 billion with these two strategies.

For more information:

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About the International business of Federated Hermes

The International Business of Federated Hermes operates across private and public markets with \$54.1bn in assets under management. All of our investment capabilities aim to deliver Sustainable Wealth Creation through active, responsible investment and effective stewardship over genuine long-term horizons.

With over US\$1.75 trillion in assets under advice, our stewardship team (EOS at Federated Hermes) actively supports the transition towards a more sustainable form of capitalism which adequately values, protects and restores natural capital. The EOS Engagement Plan includes a focus on natural resources stewardship, which covers: biodiversity and sustainable land use, sustainable food systems, and water stress. Over US\$35bn is currently engaged on the topic of forestry and land use and we expect this figure to grow significantly over the course of 2022, as we discuss issues around biodiversity and natural resources stewardship with the US\$610 bn in assets currently engaged on climate change.

EOS has a long track record of delivering positive outcomes on natural capital themes through engagement, as evidenced through our publicly available case studies (see POSCO International on deforestation, Burberry on the circular economy, Diageo on water stress). Deforestation is a dimension of EOS' climate voting policy, meaning that EOS has engaged companies and recommended votes against directors where the risks of deforestation are inadequately managed.

We intend to launch a biodiversity fund in early 2022 that aligns to natural capital themes, this will be an open-end fund. To date we have \$1bn invested in our Impact Opportunities fund, 40% of which covers natural capital themes. In addition, within private markets, we are active in real estate, private equity and infrastructure with existing funds of \$3bn considering biodiversity and other natural capital factors and plan to launch new AFOLU strategies directly aligned to natural capital themes estimated at half a billion by the end of 2022.

We are also a signatory of the NZAM, GFANZ, IIGCC and the Finance for Biodiversity Pledge.

For more information:

<https://sustainability.hermes-investment.com/uk/en/intermediary/>

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About Fidelity International

Fidelity International offers investment solutions and services and retirement expertise to more than 2.5 million customers globally. As a privately held, purpose-driven company with a 50-year heritage, we think generationally and invest for the long term. Operating in more than 25 countries and with \$787.1 billion in total assets, our clients range from central banks, sovereign wealth funds, large corporates, financial institutions, insurers and wealth managers, to private individuals. As stewards of our clients' capital, one of Fidelity International's roles is to ensure that our capital allocation decisions reflect a transition to a more sustainable future. We are committed to integrating natural capital concepts into our investment decision-making and are developing products and strategies to advance capital allocation to natural capital.

We are a supporter of Climate Action 100+, the Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD), a member of Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative (following our own commitment to reduce our operational carbon emissions to net zero by 2030), Carbon Disclosure Project and a partner of the Climate Bond Initiative, among others.

For more information: www.fidelityinternational.com

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About Fondaction

A forerunner in sustainable finance for the past 25 years, Fondaction brings together individuals and companies that are mobilizing for the positive transformation of society, taking action to make Québec's economy more equitable, inclusive, green and successful. As a labour-sponsored fund, Fondaction represents tens of thousands of savers and hundreds of companies committed to helping Québec progress. It manages a total of \$2.96 billion in net assets invested in several hundred companies and in financial markets, prioritizing investments that generate positive economic, social and environmental impacts in addition to a financial return. Fondaction helps create and maintain quality jobs, reduce inequalities and fight climate change. For more information, go to fondaction.com or our [LinkedIn page](#).

For more information:

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About Foresight

Foresight Group was founded in 1984 and is a leading infrastructure, natural capital, private equity and listed equities investment manager. With a long-established focus on ESG and sustainability-led strategies, it aims to provide attractive returns to its institutional and private investors from hard-to-access private markets. Foresight manages over 300 infrastructure assets with a focus on solar and onshore wind assets, bioenergy and waste, as well as renewable energy enabling projects, energy efficiency management solutions, social and core infrastructure projects and sustainable forestry assets. Its private equity team manages eight regionally focused investment funds across the UK, supporting over 120 SMEs. Its Foresight Capital Management team manages four funds investing in listed real assets with environmental and social benefits, exceeding £1.3 billion Assets Under Management (AUM). Foresight operates from 12 offices across six countries in Europe and Australia with AUM of £8.1 billion as at 30 September 2021. Foresight Group Holdings Limited listed on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange in February 2021.

As at 31st March 2021, Foresight Group's Infrastructure team managed in excess of £5.3bn, of which c. 60% was invested in sustainable infrastructure that actively contributes to decarbonisation. The Infrastructure team is based out of offices in London, Nottingham, Rome, Luxembourg, Madrid and Sydney. The team is comprised of 37 investment professionals and 48 asset managers, investing, managing and acquiring assets across 9 countries. Since 2020, Foresight has invested in excess of £135m into 34 UK forestry and afforestation transactions. Foresight's first dedicated listed vehicle for UK forestry and afforestation, Foresight Sustainable Forestry Company PLC, is intending to undertake an IPO on the Premium Segment of the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange, in November this year, to raise up to £200 million at listing.

Foresight Group is among a record number of signatories to a joint global investor statement calling on governments to urgently ramp up their efforts to address the climate crisis. The Investor Agenda's 2021 Global Investor Statement to Governments on the Climate Crisis contains the collective views of 733 investors from around the world, managing a total of more than US\$52 trillion in assets - which is more than half of all global assets under management. All 733 signatories have agreed to a set of policy recommendations that must be implemented swiftly to manage climate risk and channel trillions of dollars to address the climate crisis.

For more information on Foresight Group:

www.foresightgroup.eu

For more information on Foresight Sustainable Forestry Company Plc:

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About Impax Asset Management

Founded in 1998, Impax is a specialist asset manager, with £37.2bn / US\$50.1bn (as of 30 September 2021) in both listed and private markets strategies, investing in the opportunities arising from the transition to a more sustainable global economy. These include investments aligned with natural capital solutions in areas such as clean energy, water treatment and infrastructure, pollution control, waste technology, resource efficiency, and sustainable food and agriculture. Impax integrates environmental and natural capital issues into our investment process at three levels: in the development of our investment universe; in our company-level ESG analysis; and in our engagement with investee companies.

Impax continues to explore new investment opportunities related to natural capital, including developing a taxonomy aimed at identifying products and services providing solutions to biodiversity loss. Impax has pioneered quantitative impact reporting within listed equities in the annual Impact @ Impax report, continuing to develop metrics in areas of relevance to biodiversity such as water use impact and waste recovery. For the past year, Impax has been actively involved in the preparatory work for the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosure and will be continuing its support through the TNFD Forum, focussing on the development of decision-useful metrics for assessing nature-related risks and opportunities.

Established in 2002, Impax's Specialists strategy is one of the leading investment strategies focused on investing in companies offering solutions to environmental challenges including biodiversity loss. As at 30th September 2021 approx. 55% (equivalent to US\$3.0bn) of the holdings in the strategy were aligned to natural capital solutions.

Impax is a member of/signatory to a number of initiatives focussed on climate and natural capital solutions including IIGCC, Ceres, PRI, CDP, UKSIF, USSIF, the Energy Transitions Commission, Business for Nature and NZAM.

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About Kilter Rural

Kilter Rural was established in 2004. The primary philosophy of Kilter Rural is to profitably improve Australian land, water and ecosystem assets while delivering investors long-term, resilient, and non-correlated, inflation protected returns. Backed by a lifetime working in sustainable land and water management and with 16 years servicing institutional investors, Kilter Rural stands in the marketplace as one of Australia's most experienced and progressive natural capital investment managers.

Initiated on the back of an AUM\$200M investment the purpose of Kilter Rural's first institutional investment included: the regeneration of farmland agricultural systems for sustainable food production; the scaled rehabilitation of natural ecosystems and biodiversity; the delivery of climate change mitigation services; and the rejuvenation of rural communities. For 16 years Kilter Rural has been successfully delivering against these strategic themes. This long term commitment to the delivery of returns with natural capital impact was recognised in late 2019 when awarded Australian Impact Asset Manager of the Year.

The Kilter Rural Australian Farmlands Fund has a target of being a net carbon sink by end of fund, with our best-case modelled emissions intensity goal to be -4t co2/ha (sequestering 4t co2 per hectare). A significant mitigation transformation from the modelled 10t co2/ha emissions associated with the previous major farming landuse.

For more information:

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About Lombard Odier

Established in 1796, Lombard Odier is a Swiss private bank specialising in wealth and asset management. Sustainability is a core investment conviction for our firm, expressed through our proprietary framework: the CLIC™ transition to an economy that is Circular, Lean, Inclusive and Clean.

As the first certified B-Corp global wealth and asset manager, Lombard Odier provides sustainability-focused investment strategies in the listed equity, public and private debt, alternatives and structured product markets. These strategies integrate the forward-looking analysis of our 25 person-strong sustainability team, whose recognised expertise is helping investors navigate the net-zero transition and identify opportunities aligned with harnessing and preserving the power of Nature. Committed to outcomes-focused stewardship, we are a signatory to the strengthened UK Stewardship Code and place special emphasis on climate change and biodiversity engagement.

Lombard Odier manages the USD 890m open-ended LO-Natural Capital Strategy, and plans to raise an additional USD1bn from advanced stage investor pipeline for this fund. In line with our investment conviction around sustainability and the need to harness and preserve the capital nature provides, Lombard Odier is also planning to launch a private market closed end fund aligned to Natural Capital themes with a target of USD500m, continuing to build internal capabilities and explore new avenues across asset classes for capital allocation in the climate and nature-positive transitions

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About Mirova

Mirova operates across private and public markets. Responsible stewardship at our core as evidenced by being a committed player and a leading player in sustainable finance. More precisely, Mirova is a conviction-based management company that offers its clients investment solutions combining the search for financial performance with environmental and social impact. This is our raison d'être: to contribute to a more sustainable and inclusive economy by increasing our positive impact on environmental issues, but also on reducing inequalities. As 'Mission-led company', thanks to multidisciplinary teams united around the same vision, the variety of our areas of expertise, and our ability to innovate and create partnerships with the best experts, we seek to direct capital towards the needs of investment in a real, sustainable and value-creating economy. Our internationally recognised BCorp certification attests to our environmental and social commitment.

Mirova currently manages more than US\$500m in unlisted strategies that align to Natural Capital, with 3 main pillars for Nature-based Solution investments: Sustainable land use: the land degradation neutrality strategy was open in 2021 and reached a final close at US\$ 200m; Blue economy: the sustainable ocean strategy reached final close in 2020 at US\$130+m; Environmental assets: other climate strategies, based on the monetisation of payments for ecosystem services, exceeded US\$ 200m in 2020. Mirova will launch new natural capital strategies in 2022, with the objective of reaching an AuM of US\$1bn in Natural Capital investments by the end of 2022.

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About Posaidon Capital

Founded in December 2019, Posaidon Capital is a specialised, nature-focused advisory and investment boutique providing capital markets and asset management services. The firm employs a global team of 'bankers for nature' consisting of highly specialized finance and investment professionals with a vision for systems change, a passion for financial innovation, the tenacity for flawless execution and a track record of delivering impactful results. Posaidon's partners and the core team each have over 15 years of environmental finance experience, and we have pioneered a number of nature investment structures since 2013.

On the asset management side, Posaidon is operating across both public and private markets. The firm currently has no AUM aligned to natural capital or open to further investment. On the public markets side, Posaidon is planning to launch and/or advise on two open-ended funds aligned to Natural Capital themes. A blue economy impact-focused global equities fund with a strong engagement component and a nature fixed income bond fund seeking performance arbitrage. Both funds combined target \$300-600m AuM in their first year. On the private side, Posaidon has planned funds focused on investing in (i) undervalued emerging markets landscapes in Sub-Saharan Africa and (ii) nature-based solutions carbon, which are targeted to initially raise between \$200-400m in year one.

Posaidon has the intention to build up a high-impact investment platform across asset classes, allowing institutional investors to invest in a 100% nature-aligned diversified investment portfolio.

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About Sail Ventures

Sail Ventures is a globally-focused, owner-managed independent investment company that invests only in real assets that generate measurable sustainable returns. We integrate environmental and social returns into our investment strategy. We build commercially attractive portfolios of assets at scale which will, over-time, deliver outsized impact and economic returns due to their operational, environmental, and social attributes. We expect that our approach to environmental and social indicators, in particular, will further drive the underlying economics of these portfolios over time.

Sail Ventures manages the &Green Fund (www.andgreen.fund), with currently USD 150 million committed capital and a portfolio of USD 94 million deployed in assets that aim to sustainably transform agricultural production in the key commodity value chains driving tropical deforestation in key jurisdictions, decoupling production from deforestation.

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About Schroders

Founded in 1804, Schroders is one of Europe's largest independent investment management firms by assets under management. As at 30 September 2021, assets under management were £716.9 billion. The founding family remain a core shareholder, holding approximately 48% of the firm's voting shares. It has a market capitalisation of over £9 billion and employs over 5,500 people across 37 locations.

At Schroders, we actively manage investments for a wide range of institutions and individuals. Alongside risk and return, we are embedding a third dimension into our investment process – impact. It is clear today that transitioning to a low carbon economy is essential but that on its own this is not enough. We believe that economies must also transition to be nature-positive, and we are determined to help build a mainstream market for natural capital. We already harness the insight of our partners Natural Capital Research in assessing carbon offsets and biodiversity, and the expertise of BlueOrchard on impact investing.

We are currently planning to launch two nature-focused funds. First, a closed-ended private fund targeting over \$300 M to protect and develop conservation projects focused on generating positive impact on local communities alongside aiming to generate a stream of returns through investing in high quality carbon credits. And second, an open-ended Circular Economy public-private investment strategy. Both of these funds have the potential to help forge a pathway towards nature-positive investing

For more information:

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About SLM Partners

SLM Partners is an asset manager that uses investment capital to scale up regenerative and ecological farming and forestry systems. In partnership with local operators, it invests in land and real assets, while delivering positive environmental impacts on soil health, water, biodiversity, carbon storage, and building resilience to climate change and other risks. The firm believes that we can only achieve truly sustainable financial returns if we are enhancing natural capital.

SLM Partners is launching a new closed-end fund at the end of 2021 – the SLM Silva Europe Fund – that will invest in forestry, permanent food crops, and agroforestry in selected EU countries. It will acquire or lease land and introduce ecological and organic management practices. The goal is to develop a “Climate Positive” portfolio of assets that will deliver on Net Zero targets, while having measurable impacts on biodiversity and soil health. The target fund size is €250 million.

SLM Partners has been a pioneer in natural capital investing for more than a decade. Founded in 2009, the firm manages investments in sustainable forestry in Ireland, grass-fed beef cattle and carbon in Australia, and organic farmland conversion in the USA. In total, SLM Partners has \$200m in Assets under Management.

SLM Partners is a signatory to the UN Principles for Responsible Investing and a member of the Global Impact Investing Network.

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